There are a number of resolutions, amendments and motions connected with this resolution, and it would be better if those resolutions, etc., are dealt with one after another before the main resolution itself is taken up, because, if we pass over most of these other resolutions, there will be very litttle left in the main resolution itself.

Mr. A. B. Salem.—This is an omnibus resolution; there are other specific resolutions and they may be dealt with first.

Clerks of the Registry Offices.

Mr. V. D. Ouseph.—On page 26 of the Special Finance Committee report, last sentence of para 69, the recommendation is to the effect that the staff may be reduced and that Registration clerks should not be given the minimum scale of pay for ordinary clerks. My motion is that "*the recommendation of the Finance Committee to treat as copyists all the clerks of the Registry Office excepting the Head clerks and not to bring them within the scale of pay recommended for the generality of clerks should not be given effect to*". My Party is of opinion that they must also be regarded as other clerks. They also must be given advantage of the proposed scale of pay. There is absolutely no reason why a distinction be made. Para 41 of the report says:—"We have received proposals of various kinds for the revision of the pay of subordinate officers and establishments. The time-scale scheme of pay is the one that has naturally found most favour with officials of all classes. At present the great majority of appointments are simply graded; no one can expect an increase of pay except on the occurrence of a vacancy in a higher grade by the retirement or the death of the incumbent. The introduction of the incremental scale of pay in some of our Departments and the adoption of the time-scale to a large extent in Madras and to a limited extent elsewhere have led our officials to look upon the system of simple grading with considerable disfavour. A change has thus become unavoidable, and we would have been glad to recommend the general adoption of time-scale but for our well-grounded fear lest the expenditure on establishments should assume impractical dimensions. We have to remember, in this connection, that, though by the terms of our reference, we are allowed to recommend increased expenditure where necessary, it was the insistence of the Legislative Council on retrenchment that led the Government in the first instance to appoint our Committee. Bearing in mind the principles laid down in para 39, therefore, we would make a compromise between the two systems, and would recommend in the great majority of cases a combination of the system of grading with a liberal incremental scale of pay."

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I propose that Registration clerks be placed on a par with the clerks in other Departments.

President.—The question before the House is "*not to give effect to the recommendations of the Special Finance Committee to treat clerks in the Registry Offices excepting the Head clerk as only copyists, and that these clerks be put on the same scale as the clerks of the other Departments.*"

Question put and agreed to.

Menials and Servants.

Mr. A. B. Salem.—I move that "*the minimum pay of the menials and servants be not less than Rs. 15.*" In moving so, I am aware of the fact that the consensus of our opinion—our Party—is for fixing the same at a little less. That is because my Party will accept only Rs. 12. I am going to appeal for individual opinion in support of my proposition and give my proposition due consideration after hearing my remarks.

If the House does not accept this, the other problem may be accepted. There is no bar to rise a little more in generosity and give Rs. 3 more. I beg for the opinion of the Members individually to vote for the rupees fifteen proposition.

President.—What is the recommendation of the Finance Committee?

Mr. A. K. Vengu Ayyar.—Rs. 9.

Mr. A. B. Salem.—Sir, every one is willing to pay a man living in Cochin 8 as. a day. A cooly working in any estate, a cooly working in any of the roads gets more than eight annas a day. I cannot get coolies to work in my *paramba* for not less than ten or twelve annas.

Mr. C. Barton Wright.—I pay five annas for a cooly.

Mr. A. B. Salem.—Five annas! five annas! indeed, a very good cooly. Any way, Sir, for serving a Government at eight annas a day, I submit no Government in these days of hardship grudge to pay a man less than Rs. 15. Sir, a fifteen rupees peon has his full time engaged by the Government. There may be some depending on him. You may take their earnings also into consideration. What are their earnings? By a calculation in the dissenting note of Mr. C. A. Kunjunni Raja the income per head in Cochin State is put down at one anna 5 pies a day. With that nobody can live. Now, therefore, even if the peon's pay is supplemented by the little income, his dependants may earn; I say they have not sufficient for them to live with bare two meals a day. The cost of living for a day is four annas five pies per head, but here how this man with his wife and two children (I am taking only two children, there may be many for other persons) can live on this I cannot understand. They contribute to the population of the State, and for these people to be

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